

Prior Serial No. 09/416,994
Prior Art Unit: 3738
Prior Examiner: B. Pellegrino

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of) Art Unit: ??
WHITE et al.)
Serial No.: Filed Herewith) Examiner: ??
Filing Date: Filed Herewith)
For: Non-Foreshortening)
Intraluminal Prosthesis)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 19, 2001, the deadline for response being extended to January 19, 2002 by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicant is filing herewith a divisional application. Please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following at the beginning of the specification:

-- Related Cases

This is a divisional application of co-pending U.S. Serial No. 09/416,994, filed October 13, 1999, and entitled Non-Foreshortening Intraluminal Prosthesis.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-22 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

--23. (New) A stent having a longitudinal axis and comprising:

a plurality of cells disposed about the circumference of the stent, with each of the plurality of cells having exactly twelve bends and being non-symmetrical about the longitudinal axis; and

wherein the plurality of cells define a first longitudinal row of cells and a second adjacent longitudinal row of cells that is inversely symmetrical to the first longitudinal row of cells.

24. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein each cell in a longitudinal row is directly connected to an adjacent cell in the same longitudinal row.

25. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has exactly four struts that are connected to each other to form the cell, with each strut having exactly two spaced-apart bends.

26. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has a straight portion that is positioned between each of the bends.

27. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein three of the bends define an internal angle that is less than ninety degrees.

28. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein five of the twelve bends extend inside the cell.

29. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein four of the twelve bends extend outside the cell.

30. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein three of the twelve bends define acute apices.

31. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein some of the twelve bends comprises a spring element.

32. (New) The stent of claim 31, wherein each spring element compensates for changes in longitudinal length of the cell when the stent is expanded.

33. (New) The stent of claim 23, wherein one of the twelve bends is a central bottom bend which extends into the cell.

34. (New) A stent having a longitudinal axis and comprising:

a plurality of cells disposed about the circumference of the stent, with each of the plurality of cells having exactly twelve bends and being non-symmetrical about the longitudinal axis; and

wherein each cell is directly connected to an adjacent cell.

35. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein the plurality of cells define a first longitudinal row of cells and a second adjacent longitudinal row of cells that is inversely symmetrical to the first longitudinal row of cells.

36. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has exactly four struts that are connected to each other to form the cell, with each strut having exactly two spaced-apart bends.

37. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has a straight portion that is positioned between each of the bends.

38. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein three of the bends define an internal angle that is less than ninety degrees.

39. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein five of the twelve bends extend inside the cell.

40. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein four of the twelve bends extend outside the cell.

41. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein three of the twelve bends define acute apices.

42. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein some of the twelve bends comprises a spring element.

43. (New) The stent of claim 42, wherein each spring element compensates for changes in longitudinal length of the cell when the stent is expanded.

44. (New) The stent of claim 34, wherein one of the twelve bends is a central bottom bend which extends into the cell.

45. (New) A stent having a longitudinal axis and comprising:

a plurality of cells disposed about the circumference of the stent, with each of the plurality of cells being non-symmetrical about the longitudinal axis;

wherein each cell is directly connected to an adjacent cell; and

wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has exactly four struts that are connected to each other to form the cell, with each strut having exactly two spaced-apart bends.

46. (New) The stent of claim 45, wherein the plurality of cells define a first longitudinal row of cells and a second adjacent longitudinal row of cells that is inversely symmetrical to the first longitudinal row of cells.

47. (New) The stent of claim 45, wherein each of the plurality of cells has exactly twelve bends.

48. (New) The stent of claim 46, wherein each cell in a longitudinal row is directly connected to an adjacent cell in the same longitudinal row.

49. (New) The stent of claim 45, wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has a straight portion that is positioned between each of the bends.

50. (New) The stent of claim 47, wherein three of the bends define an internal angle that is less than ninety degrees.

51. (New) The stent of claim 47, wherein five of the twelve bends extend inside the cell.

52. (New) The stent of claim 47, wherein four of the twelve bends extend outside the cell.

53. (New) The stent of claim 47, wherein three of the twelve bends define acute apices.

54. (New) The stent of claim 45, wherein some of the bends comprises a spring element.

55. (New) The stent of claim 54, wherein each spring element compensates for changes in longitudinal length of the cell when the stent is expanded.

56. (New) The stent of claim 47, wherein one of the twelve bends is a central bottom bend which extends into the cell.

57. (New) A stent having a longitudinal axis and comprising:

a plurality of cells disposed about the circumference of the stent, with each of the plurality of cells having exactly twelve bends and being non-symmetrical about the longitudinal axis; and

wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has a straight portion that is positioned between each of the bends.

58. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein the plurality of cells define a first longitudinal row of cells and a second adjacent longitudinal row of cells that is inversely symmetrical to the first longitudinal row of cells.

59. (New) The stent of claim 58, wherein each cell in a longitudinal row is directly connected to an adjacent cell in the same longitudinal row.

60. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein each cell of the plurality of cells has exactly four struts that are connected to each other to form the cell, with each strut having exactly two spaced-apart bends.

61. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein three of the bends define an internal angle that is less than ninety degrees.

62. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein five of the twelve bends extend inside the cell.

63. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein four of the twelve bends extend outside the cell.

64. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein three of the twelve bends define acute apices.

65. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein some of the twelve bends comprises a spring element.

66. (New) The stent of claim 65, wherein each spring element compensates for changes in longitudinal length of the cell when the stent is expanded.

67. (New) The stent of claim 57, wherein one of the twelve bends is a central bottom bend which extends into the cell.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 23-67 have been added, and are currently pending. Claims 23-67 are directly solely to the embodiment in FIGS. 15A and 15B. Examination and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if there are informalities that can be resolved in a phone conversation, or if the Examiner has any ideas or suggestions for further advancing the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: January 18, 2002

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